

Mathia

E.M.@student.mcpsmt.org> To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Thu, Apr 29, 2021 at 10:44 AM

I would like to ask that the mathia program be stopped. It is stressful and there is no good instruction on the computer. It is like the computer is teaching us and it is NOT doing a good job. A lot of people give up on it and they don't actually learn. I know this is a big decision and will take time but I feel that this is doable. I hope that you can find an alternative where our teachers teach us. Middle school is a hard time for many students especially in covid, and this would take off a lot of stress.

E.M.



Last board meeting

Carissa Benjamin <carissabenjamin406@gmail.com>
To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Fri, Apr 30, 2021 at 10:37 AM

Hello,

I watched the last board meeting on MCAT.

I am both a MCPS employee (School Physical Therapist) and a parent of two children who both attend elementary schools in the district.

Given the strong responses I've experienced regarding the COVID vaccine, I intentionally did not want to make public comments.

There are a couple of things I would like to comment on now:

There was a question regarding any data around "educational impairment" secondary to face coverings. I would like to share what I have seen both as a parent and as school Physical Therapist:

- Face coverings make visual motor activities more difficult. A visual motor task could include any reading task, tracking items in the classroom and upper limb and bilateral coordination skills such as catching/throwing/dribbling a ball, etc.
- Balance can be impaired as a child needs to alternately look down and up when walking on a narrow base of support like a rail tie on the playground
- I've noticed that some PE classes allow "mask breaks" with vigorous activity and some do not allow this sort of
 mask break. I see children either struggling to breath with face covering and/or not participating in vigorous
 physical activity during PE. We know that physical activity is positively correlated with academic performance and
 retention.
- There continue to be students who are isolated because they are unable to wear a face mask correctly, or at all, for a period of time that would allow them to interact with their peers or be in their general ed classroom. This limits their opportunity to develop age appropriate social/emotional skills and in turn negatively impacts their overall learning/educational experience. In this situation, we are also devoting valuable space (dedicated room) and resources (1:1 para support staff) that affect the school community as a whole.
- There are also A LOT of SpEd students who continue to require ongoing cues to wear their mask correctly, such that their masks are unlikely to support the intent behind them.
- I am in 3-5 different elementary schools a week. In each school, I frequently see face masks on the ground (at recess for example), masks being handled by dirty hands, kids using their masks to wipe their noses and I see soiled masks and masks where students have actually chewed through them. I suspect that when kids wear these dirty/soiled masks for the entirety of the school day that they may be creating environments that are more likely to make them sick. Yesterday at one of the elementary schools I work at, 7-10 kids went home with suspected Norovirus as additional students were multiplying on the "sick" bench in the hallway.

I appreciate that face coverings are part of the district's mitigation strategy, however, I am not sure that they are working as intended. I would also ask that the district consider this recent PUBMED article on face coverings: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7680614/

Anecdotally, I have observed both at school and at home, that student illnesses (and behavioral issues) have increased when we went back to full classrooms, despite cleaning efforts and face coverings.

Another area I would like to comment on is the question regarding requiring the COVID vaccine. Rob Watson speculated that it could not be required because it is an "experimental" vaccine. To which another trustee felt the need to "correct" the language of "experimental," citing that the vaccine has the status of Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). Both are true! The COVID vaccine was granted the status of EUA because IT IS an experimental therapy. The trials for this vaccine are ONGOING and the specific data will be not available until 2023. Given the current status of this vaccine, it CANNOT be required at this time for anyone for any purpose.

This brings me to my next comment, not relating to any agenda item at the meeting, but one I have been thinking about for several weeks. I have serious concerns regarding the legality and ethicality of MCPS participating in the "Immunity in the Community" campaign. Specifically, encouraging our 16-18 year old student body to receive the COVID vaccine using such incentives as scholarships, bikes and technology equipment to name a few. Coercion cannot/should not be used in encouraging individuals to receive experimental therapies that have been granted EUA status. Medical decisions should be at the discretion of the family and their medical team only.

I also have questions about these vaccine clinics for students 16 - 18. How is informed consent being handled in these situations? What information are students and their parents receiving regarding the risks (both known and unknown) regarding these therapies? Are medical histories being taken prior to receiving these therapies? In the case of a serious adverse reaction secondary to this intervention, can the school district be held liable?

Given the current status of COVID vaccines (i.e EUA and unknown long term side effects) and two vaccines (AZ and J&J) being either recalled and/or paused due to clotting issues, coupled with the current data of (i.e.low risk of severe disease complications with COVID in the 16-18 year old cohort) is it appropriate to be "icentiving" our students to receive this vaccine? New data also continues to emerge suggesting changes in menses and myocarditis in individuals who have received this vaccine. Neither of these reactions were/are part of the ongoing clinical trials so it is unclear the prevalence of these potential complications.

Thank you for your time and all your efforts navigating this very challenging school year.

Sincerely, Carissa Benjamin



covid shot

kathleen harvey hotmail.com

Sun, May 2, 2021 at 11:33 AM

I find it shameful that you are giving prizes to KIDS to participate in an experimental program. We have zero idea what the side effects are for this shot. This could never be considered informed consent. You are glamorizing those that participate and then shaming those that choose not to. When you initiate a full press ad blitz I start to question why we need to try so hard to convince people that there is a deadly pandemic. This does not look like leadership to me.

God Bless the USA! Kathleen Harvey



Open letter to MCPS board

Richard Wilkins <wilkinsrichard2000@yahoo.com>
To: "publiccomment@mcpsmt.org" <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Tue, May 4, 2021 at 12:07 PM

On May 11, 2021 the Missoula County Health Department will be changing the language of the current mask order from "Required" to "Recommended". This change SHOULD apply to ALL businesses and institutions in Missoula County including MCPS since the current situation is ostensibly of medical origin and MCPS is NOT a medical authority and should not have the latitude to determine its own separate policy if it is not being enforced by Missoula County Health Department. I am anxious to see our kids unmasked, and able to live their healthiest lives. I have found these studies helpful in understanding the dangers of long-term masking: LINKS HERE.

Bacteria were the real killers in 1918 flu pandemic

Bacteria were the real killers in 1918 flu pandemic Ewen Callaway Records suggest that bacterial pneumonia along with influenza killed most victims and indicate that governments ... Masking Kids: Safety without Efficacy **Masking Kids: Safety without Efficacy** "It is time to look beyond the symbolic measures we are taking to protect ourselves from the virus, and to start...

Masks Are Neither Effective Nor Safe: A Summary Of The Science

Masks Are Neither Effective Nor Safe: A Summary Of The Science

Alternate Author

5/6/2021

Print this article and hand it to frightened mask wearers who have believed the alarmist media, politicians and ...

Masks for all children aren't needed or ethical

Masks for all children aren't needed or ethical

Patricia Rice Doran, opinion contributor

Civilized societies do not inflict likely harm on children for an uncertain benefit to adults.

I know that you strive to do what's best for our children, so I hope you will understand that I plan to also do my best for them, too. As such, should you not choose to follow the health experts' decisions and allow us to make decisions for our children, I will be forced to seek legal recourse.

Thank you for continuing to follow the health guidelines and allowing our children to breathe freely by removing their masks in school.

Sincerely Richard Wilkins



Re: Open letter to MCPS board

1 message

Richard Wilkins <wilkinsrichard2000@yahoo.com> To: Public Comment <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org> Fri, May 7, 2021 at 7:39 AM

Best to pay attention to what is happening. This is happening across the country I can provide at least another dozen examples at this point. We the People are taking our country back, peacefully. Have the wisdom to do what's right by May 12 and save yourselves the public embarrassment and potential court costs.

Video: Fed Up Parents Yell "No More Masks!"...Take Over School Board Meeting as Board Members Escape Out the **Back**

Video: Fed Up Parents Yell "No More Masks!"...Take Over School Board Mee...

A Salt Lake City, Utah School District meeting on Tuesday, May4th, was the scene of angry and fed-up parents who...

Richard Wilkins

On Tuesday, May 4, 2021, 12:08:03 PM MDT, Public Comment publiccomment@mcpsmt.org> wrote:

Thank you for submitting your public comment. Just like comments made in person at a public board meeting, the comments you submit through email are public record and are available for any member of the Board and public to read. Please refrain from referring to confidential student or staff information, or making derogatory comments about students or staff members. If you do provide private confidential information, we will redact that information before placing it in any public document. Please refer to Board Policy 1441 for more information about public comments in general. Thank you!



(no subject)

2 messages

Mad Manimal <randymanimal@gmail.com> To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Fri, May 7, 2021 at 8:06 AM

By masking kids you are participating in the communist take over of our country. It's disgusting. Any parent that is afraid about no masks can homeschool their children. Kids are not in any real danger from this blown out of proportion bug, stop the insanity.

Public Comment publiccomment@mcpsmt.org> To: randymanimal@gmail.com

Fri, May 7, 2021 at 8:07 AM

Thank you for submitting your public comment. Just like comments made in person at a public board meeting, the comments you submit through email are public record and are available for any member of the Board and public to read. Please refrain from referring to confidential student or staff information, or making derogatory comments about students or staff members. If you do provide private confidential information, we will redact that information before placing it in any public document. Please refer to Board Policy 1441 for more information about public comments in general. Thank you!



UNMASK the children

2 messages

mtjosh6@gmail.com <mtjosh6@gmail.com>

Fri, May 7, 2021 at 8:59 AM

To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

By forcing children to wear masks you are breaking the Nuremberg Code, harming them mentally and physically, and are participating in the Communist take over of our Country. You have until May 12th 2021 to stop breaking the law and return to normal. This is YOUR deadline, not ours.

Sent from my iPhone

Public Comment publiccomment@mcpsmt.org> To: mtjosh6@gmail.com

Fri, May 7, 2021 at 8:59 AM

Thank you for submitting your public comment. Just like comments made in person at a public board meeting, the comments you submit through email are public record and are available for any member of the Board and public to read. Please refrain from referring to confidential student or staff information, or making derogatory comments about students or staff members. If you do provide private confidential information, we will redact that information before placing it in any public document. Please refer to Board Policy 1441 for more information about public comments in general. Thank you!



Masks and mandates

Bone Yard <putriddogbag@gmail.com> To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org

Fri, May 7, 2021 at 11:55 AM

Time to stop scaring our children and our citizens. People are in worst shape from mandates and lock downs than they would have been without! You can see this just by comparing California and florida.. everything from drug abuse, suicides, abuse in homes, lost buisnesses, economy impacts... its time we accept logic over fear. This is tyranny. Unmask our kids, open everything back up to full capacity and end all draconian measures. And research the Nuremberg code.. you are braking the law restricting anyone from operating at full capacity and forcing mask mandates!



Public Comment cpsmt.org>

Prescott School - Would like a tour of the inside to access damage left by Missoula International School

Jeanne Joscelyn <jeannejoscelyn@hotmail.com>
To: "publiccomment@mcpsmt.org" <publiccomment@mcpsmt.org>

Sun, May 9, 2021 at 5:19 PM

Dear Trustees,

In 2004 when the youngest of my sons attended Prescott (one other son attended Prescott for 4th and 5th grades) the board decided to close Prescott School to the dismay of many parents, teachers, and students. At the same time the board closed Rattlesnake Middle School, and Mt. Jumbo School in East Missoula. This was an extremely stressful and painful time for all involved and affected almost every student throughout the district.

Missoula International School leased Prescott School a month or so after it was closed. That was most likely the reason for the closure as Board members had ties to Missoula International School – the most notorious member being Toni Rehbein as she was Board President of MIS shortly before becoming a MCPS Trustee.

Lots of info on this corrupt deal can be found on my website – www.prescottschoolmissoula.blogspot.com.

The school district has placed MIS over the needs of the public school students since 2004!! Who would have guessed that MIS would occupy Prescott School for 17 years!!!!! UNBELEIVABLE AND UNBELIEVABLY NEGLIGENT OF MCPS!!

I am requesting a tour of Prescott School. I am requesting that MIS does not get their deposit back.

We just went by Prescott School – my heart was broken into a hundred pieces. It looked so ramshackled and in need of repair.

This needs to be remedied by MIS NOW! The playground needs to reseeded. The building on the south side needs painting – the paint is peeling away!

How negligent of MCPS to let our beautiful and popular Prescott School be so gravely neglected!!

Again, I would like a tour of Prescott to see the inside and I'm deeply afraid that the inside will look just as bad as the outside.

The public should not be responsible for the upkeep that was the responsibility of MIS.

And this school needs to reopened and NEVER should have been closed.

In fact, the person most responsible for this tragedy has her name on a real estate sign that is just blocks from the school she so hatefully lead the campaign to close and eventually succeeded. Rosemary Harrison is one member of the board that needs to pony up millions of dollars if she were really held accountable for her disgraceful and corrupt leadership as the Chair in 2004.

Please respond to my letter so there can be a time for me and perhaps others to take a tour of Prescott School.

Thank you,

Jeanne Joscelyn

Sent from Mail for Windows 10



Re: covid shot

2 messages

kathleen harvey hotmail.com

Mon, May 10, 2021 at 8:55 PM

To: "rwatson@mcpsmt.org" <rwatson@mcpsmt.org>, "publiccomment@mcps.k12.mt.us" <publiccomment@mcps.k12.mt.us>, "gdecker@mcpsmt.org" <gdecker@mcpsmt.org>, "nhobbins@mcpsmt.org" <nhobbins@mcpsmt.org>, "mholland@mcpsmt.org" <mholland@mcpsmt.org>, "dlorenzen@mcpsmt.org" <dlorenzen@mcpsmt.org>, "vmcdonald@mcpsmt.org" <vwcdonald@mcpsmt.org>, "woldperson@mcpsmt.org" <woldperson@mcpsmt.org>, "ssterbis@mcpsmt.org" <ssterbis@mcpsmt.org>, "jvogel@mcpsmt.org" <jvogel@mcpsmt.org>, "awake@mcpsmt.org" <awake@mcpsmt.org>

The health department has lifted both the mask mandate and the social distancing mandate. Why has MCPS decided to not follow their guidelines this time? It would alleviate stress and anxiety and end the school year on a high note,

God bless the USA!

Kathleen Harvey



Masks

Kathy Armstrong <musk@reagan.com>

Tue, May 11, 2021 at 7:49 AM

To: "rwatson@mcpsmt.org" <rwatson@mcpsmt.org>, "publiccomment@mcps.k12.mt.us" <publiccomment@mcps.k12.mt.us>, "gdecker@mcpsmt.org" <gdecker@mcpsmt.org>, "nhobbins@mcpsmt.org" <nhobbins@mcpsmt.org>, "mholland@mcpsmt.org" <mholland@mcpsmt.org>, "dlorenzen@mcpsmt.org" <dlorenzen@mcpsmt.org>, "vmcdonald@mcpsmt.org" <vwcdonald@mcpsmt.org>, "woldperson@mcpsmt.org" <woldperson@mcpsmt.org>, "ssterbis@mcpsmt.org" <ssterbis@mcpsmt.org>, "jvogel@mcpsmt.org" <jvogel@mcpsmt.org>, "awake@mcpsmt.org" <awake@mcpsmt.org> (c: "Arntzen, Elsie" <elsie.arntzen@mt.gov>

Good morning all,

Hey, can someone please tell me since the mask mandate has been lifted for the entire state of Montana and w/ students being at extremely low risk why is the Missoula County Public Schools still enforcing mask wearing. Our city, state and country is really ready for a comeback and this whole ordeal has been especially hard on our kids. Please, let them go out w/ a bang... end the year on a high note. Please do not make them wear masks any longer. This is crazy making.

Thank you,

Kathy



Letter from Franklin Staff

2 messages

Angie Palin <apalin@mcpsmt.org>

Tue, May 11, 2021 at 3:00 PM

To: publiccomment@mcpsmt.org, Marcia Holland <mholland@mcpsmt.org>, Jeffrey Avgeris <javgeris@mcpsmt.org>, Grace Decker <gdecker@mcpsmt.org>, Koan Mercer <kmercer@mcpsmt.org>, Wilena Old Person <woldperson@mcpsmt.org>, Nancy Hobbins <nhobbins@mcpsmt.org>, Diane Lorenzen <dlorenzen@mcpsmt.org>, Ann Wake <awake@mcpsmt.org>, Vicki McDonald <vmcdonald@mcpsmt.org>, Sharon Sterbis <ssterbis@mcpsmt.org>, Jen Vogel <jvogel@mcpsmt.org>



Franklin letter to the school board 5-11-21.pdf 331K

Dear Chairperson Marcie Holland, and board members Jeffrey Avgeris, Grace Decker, Koan Mercer, Wilena Old Person, Nancy Hobbins, Diane Lorenzen, Ann Wake, Vicki McDonald, Sharon Sterbis, and Jenifer Vogel,

It was with great disappointment our staff learned on 4/26 that the Spanish program at Franklin is slated to be cut. Since we were told that part of the decision to pause the IB and cut spanish from our building was a lack of support from our faculty, we want to be certain that perception does not carry over to the Spanish program. The undersigned faculty passionately support offering Spanish to our students in addition to the other specials and ask that you reconsider removing Spanish from our building.

Keeping the Spanish program at Franklin is one way to give our Title 1 students a leg up and show the greater community that diversity matters. Beginning Spanish at the elementary level prepares Students for the Spanish classes offered in middle school and high school. According to a report coming out of Northwestern College in 2019, "Foreign languages should be taught at the elementary level because it helps with literacy in English, it enhances problem solving, attentional control and the ability to switch tasks, but most importantly, young children are intrinsically better language learners, and will, therefore, become more proficient and retain more..." These are skills and strengths our students need to excel in all their endeavors and this report is supported by numerous studies.

Keeping the Spanish program at Franklin also looks to our students' futures. Franklin students have enjoyed and benefited from Spanish for the last three years which means half of our population will have had three years of preparation going into middle school Spanish classes. The other half have had Spanish throughout their entire schooling. This experience not only builds their academic skills, it exposes them to a diversity of culture in a changing world.

Recognizing that diversity matters, that Title 1 students need support from the community as a whole, and that equity is a complex multilayered issue should, in our opinion, be at the heart of the school board's decision making. The parents in lower economic brackets do not have the same resources of time and money that less economically stressed families have, so it is up to the rest of us to try to bridge that gap rather than make it wider. Keeping the Spanish program at Franklin school is one opportunity for us to begin to build that bridge. Therefore, on behalf of the families who make up the Franklin community, we the faculty ask that you reinstate Spanish in our school.

Respectfully,

Anail Pali

nts Wisherd

nargoret BBoelma

dison Apone

Kristin Lawson Courtney fischer Jade V. Blall Thenton Greeky

Becky Dowlle

Se

Enery Ketcheriole

Carrie Anderso

Mary Lyndes

Holly Hanse